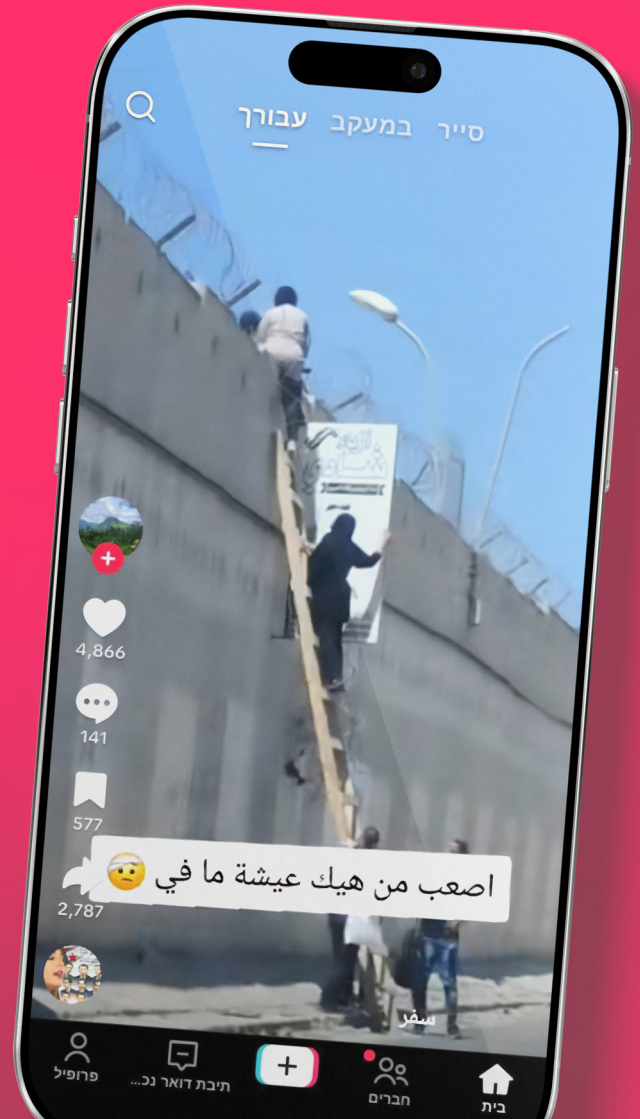


ONLINE TUTORIALS SHOW: HOW TO CROSS THE SEPARATION BARRIER IN JERUSALEM

1 More on last week's murderous terrorist attack at the Ramot Intersection, perpetrated by illegal alien Palestinian terrorists who infiltrated Jerusalem from PA territory via uncontrolled and unguarded gaps in the separation barrier:

Videos are being circulated on PA social media that look like instructional film clips on how to illegally cross into Jerusalem, by climbing over the wall with ladders and other methods. A large majority of the gaps still exist in northern Jerusalem, while the authorities have taken steps to close some of the larger crossings that allow vehicle movement.

Here is a sample "how to" screenshot from one of the videos, with the tongue-in-cheek caption: "There's no life harder than this."



2 The teachers employed by the Palestinian Authority in Jerusalem (and in Judea and Samaria as well) received only half their salaries this month. This, due to the widely-reported budgetary crisis hitting the PA. The teachers announced that if they are not paid, they will strike.

3 The PA's cash flow issues are worsening significantly. PA salaries are not being paid, or only partially so, leaving the banks with larger than usual supplies of Israeli shekels. The Palestine Monetary Authority has forbidden banks in the PA from accepting additional shekels in cash, placing business activity there in a tizzy. The ban means that various businesses, such as gas stations, refuse to receive cash payments, because they know that they will be unable to deposit the money in their accounts. The only methods of payment, then, are either by credit card or bank transfers, which prevent many residents and even some businesses from making purchases.

4 The results are very damaging for households and small businesses alike. Small businesses often don't have the wherewithal to withstand such shocks, while families are particularly vulnerable when it comes to buying gasoline, at 250-300 shekels a shot. And thus, the gaps between rich and poor are widening, as they have been ever since the start of the war in Gaza.

As could have been expected, the PA and its leaders are being blamed, and various opposition groups – especially among extreme Islamists – are poised to gain in popularity and influence. As always, the Arab villages around Jerusalem, and sometimes even within Jerusalem, mimic to a large degree these developments in the PA, and especially in the cities near Jerusalem – where the familial and social ties are stronger – namely, Ramallah, Jericho, Bethlehem and Hebron.

The cover of a popular textbook for the study of Hebrew:
"Hebrew From the Beginning: Study of the Hebrew Language for Beginners."

5 As part of the growing trend among Jerusalem Arabs to learn Hebrew, the TALK Center on Salah a-Din St. is holding Hebrew classes for female high school graduates who wish to join the western Jerusalem work force. The students walk around the city in groups, openly holding copies of their "Hebrew From the Beginning" textbooks.

This stands in stark contrast to the heavy pressures, and worse, exerted even in the recent past upon institutions and even individuals who wish to learn Hebrew and be integrated into Israeli economic life. This is another example of the practical separation between the need to make a living, and various political and religious viewpoints that are often influenced by extremist elements.

